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LOUISIANA LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

BATON ROUGE
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THE LOUISIANA ECONOMIC SITUATION

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana was estimated at 1,500,300 for February, an increase of 2,300 above January's level and 16,900 above the February a year ago figure. The increase in nonmanufacturing payrolls for the current month was centered in the government segment. Manufacturing employment was lower for the current month as both durable and nondurable goods payrolls dropped.

Employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing, estimated at 74,600, was a decrease of 800 workers from the January revised level. A temporary shutdown by a firm in the millwork, plywood and structural members sector was largely responsible for lower employment in the lumber and wood products industry. Transportation equipment employment dropped due to less business in the ship and boat building and repairing industry.

Estimated employment in the nondurable goods segment of manufacturing for February amounted to 94,200, a decrease of 400 below last month's level, but 1,100 higher than February a year ago. Less business for several segments in the food and kindred products industry accounted for the drop in non-durable goods-manufacturing employment.

Louisiana's employment in nonmanufacturing industries during February was 1,331,500, an increase of 3,500 from the January figure of 1,328,000. Mining employment was down as a result of a decrease in the exploration of oil and gas. Employment in construction was down as a result of decreased business throughout most of the construction industry. Transportation and public utilities experienced an increase in employment levels as a result of more activity in trucking and warehousing, the state's ports, and in the communications services sectors. A decrease in trade was centered in the retail segment as department stores, apparel stores, and variety and discount outlets cut their payrolls. Contributing to the downturn in finance, insurance, and real estate employment were payroll reductions in banking and real estate. Among the segments most instrumental in the higher payroll level exhibited for services in February were business services, educational services, and social services. Government employment for the current month moved higher largely as a result of increases in state education payrolls.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 123,100 production workers in manufacturing increased from $462.58 in January to $470.79 in February, an increase of $8.21, and an increase of $16.35 above February of last year. Average hourly earnings were $0.25 higher in February than last month, and $0.47 higher than February a year ago. Weekly hours averaged 41.7 during February, a decrease of 0.2 hours from last month's figure.

Total unemployment for Louisiana stood at 220,100. The unemployment rate for February was 11.7 percent. The comparable national unemployment rate for February was 5.6 percent. The state's civilian labor force decreased to 1,875,100 workers. Estimated total employment fell to 1,655,000 for the current month.

The unemployment rate for the state is expected to decrease during the next 30 days. Certain segments of nonmanufacturing, in particular construction, should move upward in the next few months. Manufacturing employment may go up in the next month or two.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Feb. 1989*	Jan. 1989**	Feb. 1988**	Net Change from Jan. 1989	Net Change from Feb. 1988
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	1,500.3	1,498.0	1,483.4	+ 2.3	+16.9
MINING	56.8	57.3	56.1	- 0.5	+ 0.7
Oil and Gas Extraction	54.2	54.7	53.5	- 0.5	+ 0.7
Nonmetallic Minerals	2.6	2.6	2.6	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	82.6	83.3	76.7	- 0.7	+ 5.9
MANUFACTURING	168.8	170.0	167.0	- 1.2	+ 1.8
Durable Goods	74.6	75.4	73.9	- 0.8	+ 0.7
Lumber and Wood Products	11.6	12.2	12.4	- 0.6	- 0.8
Furniture and Fixtures	0.7	0.6	0.7	+ 0.1	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	5.4	5.5	5.3	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Primary Metal Industries	3.3	3.3	2.9	0	+ 0.4
Fabricated Metal Products	12.7	12.7	11.8	0	+ 0.9
Machinery, Except Electrical	9.1	9.0	8.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Electrical & Electronic Equipment	6.4	6.5	7.2	- 0.1	- 0.8
Transportation Equipment	22.9	23.1	22.7	- 0.2	+ 0.2
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.5	2.5	2.1	0	+ 0.4
Nondurable Goods	94.2	94.6	93.1	- 0.4	+ 1.1
Food & Kindred Products	19.1	19.5	19.0	- 0.4	+ 0.1
Apparel & Other Textile Products	10.0	10.1	9.8	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Paper & Allied Products	12.4	12.4	11.8	0	+ 0.6
Printing & Publishing	9.9	9.9	9.9	0	0
Chemicals & Allied Products	27.4	27.3	26.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.9
Petroleum and Coal Products	11.0	11.0	11.3	0	- 0.3
Petroleum Refining	10.2	10.2	10.4	0	- 0.2
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	4.4	4.4	4.8	0	- 0.4
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	108.9	107.8	105.8	+ 1.1	+ 3.1
Railroad Transportation	5.1	5.1	5.1	0	0
Transportation, ex. Railroads	63.1	62.5	60.5	+ 0.6	+ 2.6
Water Transportation	25.5	25.5	25.0	0	+ 0.5
Communication & Electric, Gas & Sanitary Ser.	40.7	40.2	40.2	+ 0.5	+ 0.5
Communication, Exc. U S Postal Service	18.6	18.2	17.9	+ 0.4	+ 0.7
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	22.1	22.0	22.3	+ 0.1	- 0.2
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	357.6	359.6	353.6	- 2.0	+ 4.0
Wholesale Trade	80.8	81.1	80.9	- 0.3	- 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	45.3	45.3	45.6	0	- 0.3
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	35.5	35.8	35.3	- 0.3	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	276.8	278.5	272.7	- 1.7	+ 4.1
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	58.3	59.1	55.8	- 0.8	+ 2.5
Food Stores	55.2	55.5	55.1	- 0.3	+ 0.1
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	29.5	29.8	28.8	- 0.3	+ 0.7
Eating & Drinking Places	84.4	84.1	82.6	+ 0.3	+ 1.8
Other Retail Trade	49.4	50.0	50.4	- 0.6	- 1.0

LOUISIANA - CONTINUED
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Feb. 1989*	Jan. 1989**	Feb. 1988**	Net Change from Jan. 1989	Net Change from Feb. 1988
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	81.1	81.6	82.8	- 0.5	- 1.7
Banking	22.6	22.8	23.9	- 0.2	- 1.3
SERVICES	328.3	327.1	324.5	+ 1.2	+ 3.8
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	21.1	21.0	20.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Personal Services	14.4	14.6	14.9	- 0.2	- 0.5
Business Services	62.6	62.3	59.6	+ 0.3	+ 3.0
Auto Repair, Services & Garages	9.5	9.5	9.4	0	+ 0.1
Miscellaneous Repair Services	5.1	5.0	5.2	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Amusement & Recreation Services	8.4	8.3	7.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
Health Services	105.1	105.0	102.6	+ 0.1	+ 2.5
Legal Services	16.0	15.9	15.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.6
Educational Services	20.5	20.3	22.6	+ 0.2	- 2.1
Social Services	18.7	18.4	18.9	+ 0.3	- 0.2
Membership Organizations	25.3	- 25.2	25.6	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Miscellaneous Services	16.0	15.9	15.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
GOVERNMENT	316.2	311.3	316.9	+ 4.9	- 0.7
Federal	36.4	36.3	36.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
State and Local	279.8	275.0	280.8	+ 4.8	- 1.0
State	93.0	88.5	97.1	+ 4.5	- 4.1
Local	186.8	186.5	183.7	+ 0.3	+ 3.1

* Preliminary **Revised
(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries
(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication are prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, with the exception of the Lake Charles MSA which is prepared under the auspices of the Louisiana Department of Labor, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Feb. '89*	Jan. '89**	Feb. '88**	Feb. '89*	Jan. '89**	Feb. '88**	Feb. '89*	Jan. '89**	Feb. '88**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$470.79	$462.58	$454.44	41.7	41.9	42.0	$11.29	$11.04	$10.82
Durable Goods	426.17	415.49	409.21	41.7	41.8	42.1	10.22	9.94	9.72
Lumber & Wood Products	375.76	357.01	368.24	44.0	42.4	44.1	8.54	8.42	8.35
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	355.42	359.85	361.38	38.3	39.5	39.8	9.28	9.11	9.08
Fabricated Metal Products	400.89	414.04	430.51	41.5	43.4	44.2	9.66	9.54	9.74
Machinery, ex. Electrical	398.16	397.74	382.47	42.0	42.0	41.8	9.48	9.47	9.15
Electric & Electronic Equip.	602.65	532.12	495.60	42.5	42.4	41.3	14.18	12.55	12.00
Transportation Equipment	462.17	453.17	430.61	40.9	40.9	40.7	11.30	11.08	10.58
Nondurable Goods	508.74	502.80	492.40	41.7	41.9	41.8	12.20	12.00	11.78
Food & Kindred Products	286.30	289.94	293.46	36.8	38.1	37.1	7.98	7.61	7.91
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	211.55	213.59	202.45	36.6	36.7	37.7	5.78	5.82	5.37
Paper & Allied Products	570.71	576.79	565.47	43.8	44.3	43.1	13.03	13.02	13.12
Printing & Publishing	392.70	410.50	385.94	37.4	38.4	37.8	10.50	10.69	10.21
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	730.03	722.93	709.32	45.4	45.9	46.0	16.08	15.75	15.42
Petroleum & Coal Products	726.34	680.41	673.93	46.0	43.7	45.2	15.79	15.57	14.91
Petroleum Refining	740.59	690.90	684.33	46.2	43.7	45.2	16.03	15.81	15.14
MINING	543.46	564.10	539.16	45.9	46.2	46.6	11.84	12.21	11.57
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	498.00	518.93	501.47	40.0	40.7	39.3	12.45	12.75	12.76
BANKING	281.22	277.83	269.65	37.9	37.8	37.4	7.42	7.35	7.21

(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 123,100 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 89,100 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

(in thousands)	PRELIMINARY FEBRUARY 1989 Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	REVISED JANUARY 1989 Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	REVISED FEBRUARY 1988 Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,875.1	1,655.0	220.1	11.7	1,887.9	1,663.9	224.0	11.9	1,904.4	1,678.3	226.1	11.9
METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	58.7	52.1	6.6	11.3	59.6	52.8	6.8	11.4	59.5	53.0	6.5	10.9
Baton Rouge 2/	264.3	239.2	25.1	9.5	265.6	238.3	27.3	10.3	265.0	238.6	26.4	9.9
Houma - Thibodaux 3/	68.3	60.2	8.1	11.8	68.6	60.6	8.0	11.7	70.8	61.4	9.4	13.3
Lafayette 4/	97.2	87.1	10.1	10.4	97.3	87.1	10.2	10.5	98.6	87.7	10.9	11.0
Lake Charles 5/	72.8	64.1	8.7	11.9	73.6	64.9	8.7	11.8	75.3	65.2	10.1	13.4
Monroe 6/	66.3	58.8	7.5	11.4	66.6	59.1	7.5	11.2	69.4	61.7	7.7	11.1
New Orleans 7/	581.1	524.5	56.6	9.7	584.8	527.7	57.1	9.8	590.1	532.8	57.3	9.7
Shreveport 8/	157.6	139.2	18.4	11.7	158.7	140.5	18.2	11.5	162.2	143.4	18.8	11.6

1/ Rapides Parish only. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Includes Lafourche and Terrebonne parishes. 4/ Includes Lafayette and St. Martin parishes. 5/ Calcasieu Parish only. 6/ Ouachita Parish only. 7/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, St. Tammany , St. Charles and St. John the Baptist parishes. 8/ Includes Bossier and Caddo parishes.

NOTICE

Revised Labor Force data for years 1980 through 1988 are now available for the State, MSA's and parishes, by contacting:

Research & Statistics Unit
Louisiana Department of Labor
Office of Employment Security
P.O. Box 94094
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9094
Phone: (504) 342-3141

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The Consumer Price Index, sometimes called the "Cost of Living Index" is a monthly measure of the average change in prices in a fixed quantity of goods and services.

All Urban Consumers	Index	%Change from Prior Month	% Change from Prior Year
February 1988	116.0		
February 1989	121.6	+ 0.4	+ 4.8

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, OTHER AREAS

	PRELIMINARY FEBRUARY 89				REVISED JANUARY 89			
	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE
CROWLEY (ACADIA)	21,650	18,775	2,875	13.3	21,925	19,000	2,925	13.3
OAKDALE (ALLEN)	9,350	8,025	1,325	14.2	9,450	8,050	1,400	14.8
NAPOLEONVILLE (ASSUMPTION)	6,425	4,975	1,450	22.4	6,600	5,000	1,600	24.1
BUNKIE (AVOYELLES)	15,850	12,650	3,200	20.2	16,175	12,725	3,450	21.3
DERIDDER (BEAUREGARD)	13,075	11,475	1,600	12.3	13,050	11,475	1,575	12.0
ARCADIA (BIENVILLE)	6,825	5,875	950	13.9	6,725	5,850	875	13.0
COLUMBIA (CALDWELL)	4,275	3,325	950	22.0	4,050	3,350	700	17.0
CAMERON (CAMERON)	4,525	3,925	600	13.4	4,625	4,025	600	12.9
JONESVILLE (CATAHOULA)	4,075	3,025	1,050	25.7	4,175	3,075	1,100	26.5
HOMER (CLAIBORNE)	7,900	7,025	875	11.0	7,925	7,075	850	10.7
FERRIDAY (CONCORDIA)	10,075	8,150	1,925	19.1	10,250	8,250	2,000	19.4
MANSFIELD (DESOTO)	12,525	10,800	1,725	13.8	12,500	10,775	1,725	13.8
LAKE PROVIDENCE (E. CARROLL)	4,250	2,900	1,350	31.7	4,225	2,925	1,300	30.7
CLINTON (EAST FELICIANA)	7,175	6,175	1,000	14.0	7,375	6,300	1,075	14.5
VILLE PLATTE(EVANGELINE)	13,150	11,100	2,050	15.5	13,050	11,100	1,950	14.9
WINNSBORO (FRANKLIN)	8,050	6,400	1,650	20.4	8,150	6,500	1,650	20.2
COLFAX (GRANT)	6,800	5,725	1,075	15.8	6,925	5,875	1,050	15.3
NEW IBERIA (IBERIA)	24,750	21,625	3,125	12.6	25,025	21,750	3,275	13.0
PLAQUEMINE (IBERVILLE)	11,125	9,225	1,900	17.2	11,275	9,250	2,025	18.0
JONESBORO (JACKSON)	6,625	5,825	800	12.0	6,575	5,875	700	10.8
JENNINGS (JEFFERSON DAVIS)	11,050	9,225	1,825	16.5	11,200	9,375	1,825	16.3
JENA (LASALLE)	6,775	5,625	1,150	16.9	6,575	5,650	925	14.1
RUSTON (LINCOLN)	16,900	15,800	1,100	6.4	16,875	15,775	1,100	6.6
TALLULAH (MADISON)	5,600	4,425	1,175	20.9	5,700	4,475	1,225	21.3
BASTROP (MOREHOUSE)	12,475	10,175	2,300	18.4	12,675	10,300	2,375	18.8
NATCHITOCHES (NATCHITOCHES)	15,825	13,850	1,975	12.5	16,050	13,975	2,075	13.0
POINT-A-LA-HACHE (PLAQUM.)	8,525	7,400	1,125	13.1	8,475	7,400	1,075	12.6
NEW ROADS (POINTE COUPEE)	7,225	5,725	1,500	20.7	7,550	5,800	1,750	23.2
COUSHATTA (RED RIVER)	4,150	3,575	575	13.9	4,250	3,600	650	15.2
RAYVILLE (RICHLAND)	8,625	7,175	1,450	16.9	8,750	7,175	1,575	18.0
MANY (SABINE)	9,725	8,575	1,150	11.9	9,725	8,575	1,150	11.8
GREENSBURG (ST. HELENA)	2,825	2,425	400	14.1	2,900	2,475	425	14.5
LUTCHER (ST. JAMES)	7,900	6,600	1,300	16.5	8,025	6,575	1,450	18.0
OPELOUSAS (ST. LANDRY)	30,650	24,975	5,675	18.5	30,925	25,125	5,800	18.8
MORGAN CITY (ST. MARY)	24,425	20,575	3,850	15.8	24,425	20,625	3,800	15.5
HAMMOND (TANGIPAHOA)	36,925	31,450	5,475	14.8	37,700	31,775	5,925	15.7
ST. JOSEPH (TENSAS)	3,025	2,475	550	17.8	3,125	2,500	625	19.9
FARMERVILLE (UNION)	8,250	7,075	1,175	14.3	8,250	7,125	1,125	13.6
ABBEVILLE (VERMILION)	18,400	15,300	3,100	16.8	18,625	15,525	3,100	16.6
LEESVILLE (VERNON)	18,200	16,150	2,050	11.3	18,375	16,250	2,125	11.6
BOGALUSA (WASHINGTON)	18,375	15,475	2,900	15.8	18,225	15,625	2,600	14.3
MINDEN (WEBSTER)	19,700	16,725	2,975	15.1	19,725	16,875	2,850	14.5
OAK GROVE (WEST CARROLL)	4,850	3,400	1,450	30.0	4,900	3,425	1,475	29.9
ST. FRANCISVILLE (W. FELIC.)	4,100	3,525	575	14.2	4,200	3,525	675	15.8
WINNFIELD (WINN)	5,825	5,100	725	12.5	5,825	5,150	675	11.8

NOTE: LABOR MARKET AREAS ARE DESIGNATED BY NAME OF PRINCIPAL TOWN, BUT INCLUDE ALL OF PARISH IN PARENTHESES.

ABOVE DATA ROUNDED TO NEAREST 25 EXCEPT MSAS AND STATEWIDE WHICH ARE ROUNDED TO NEAREST 100. SUBTOTALS MAY NOT ADD TO TOTALS DUE TO ROUNDING. RATES COMPUTED FROM UNROUNDED DATA.

ALEXANDRIA AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Feb. 1989*	Jan. 1989**	Feb. 1988**	Net Change From Jan. 1989	Net Change From Feb. 1988
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	45.0	45.1	44.5	- 0.1	+ 0.5
MANUFACTURING	3.3	3.3	3.4	0	- 0.1
Durable Goods	1.9	1.9	2.0	0	- 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.5	1.5	1.6	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	1.4	1.4	1.4	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0
MINING	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	1.7	1.8	1.9	- 0.1	- 0.2
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.1	2.1	2.1	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	10.7	10.8	10.6	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade	1.9	1.9	1.9	0	0
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Retail Trade	8.8	8.9	8.7	- 0.1	+ 0.1
General Merchandise	1.7	1.8	1.8	- 0.1	- 0.1
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	2.4	2.4	2.3	0	+ 0.1
Other Retail Trade	3.7	3.7	3.7	0	0
FINANCE, INS., & REAL ESTATE	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
SERVICES	11.5	11.6	10.9	- 0.1	+ 0.6
Health Services	5.1	5.1	4.9	0	+ 0.2
GOVERNMENT	13.0	12.8	12.9	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Federal	3.1	3.0	2.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
State and Local	9.9	9.8	10.1	+ 0.1	- 0.2
State	4.5	4.4	4.7	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Local	5.4	5.4	5.4	0	0

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria MSA was estimated at 45,000 for the month of February. This estimate was 100 less than last month but 500 more than February of last year.

Employment in manufacturing remained unchanged from the previous month but declined by 100 from February 1988. The decline resulted from a decrease in durable goods.

February estimated employment in nonmanufacturing was 41,700. This figure was down by 100 from last month but up 600 compared to the same period a year ago. Although an increase was noted in government, decreases in construction, wholesale and retail trade, and services resulted in the overall decreases from last month. The increase from February 1988 was a result of gains in wholesale and retail trade, services, and government with a decline in construction.

During the next thirty days employment should improve slightly, due to normal seasonal increases, with a corresponding decline in the number of unemployed.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Feb. 1989*	Jan. 1989**	Feb. 1988**	Net Change From Jan. 1989	Net Change From Feb. 1988
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	221.4	218.4	216.1	+ 3.0	+ 5.3
MANUFACTURING	19.3	19.2	19.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Durable Goods	4.2	4.1	4.2	+ 0.1	0
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Fabricated Metal Products	1.2	1.1	1.2	+ 0.1	0
Other Durable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
Nondurable Goods	15.1	15.1	14.9	0	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.5	1.5	1.6	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.4	1.4	1.5	0	- 0.1
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	10.7	10.7	10.5	0	+ 0.2
Other Nondurable Goods	1.5	1.5	1.3	0	+ 0.2
MINING	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	22.9	23.4	21.3	- 0.5	+ 1.6
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILTIES	10.5	10.5	10.5	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	53.6	53.4	50.5	+ 0.2	+ 3.1
Wholesale Trade	11.9	11.9	11.4	0	+ 0.5
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	8.4	8.4	8.0	0	+ 0.4
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	3.5	3.5	3.4	0	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	41.7	41.5	39.1	+ 0.2	+ 2.6
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	13.6	13.6	13.6	0	0
Banking	3.4	3.4	3.5	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	45.9	46.0	44.8	- 0.1	+ 1.1
GOVERNMENT	54.6	51.3	55.3	+ 3.3	- 0.7
Federal	2.3	2.3	2.3	0	0
State and Local	52.3	49.0	53.0	+ 3.3	- 0.7
State	29.8	26.5	30.6	+ 3.3	- 0.8
Local	22.5	22.5	22.4	0	+ 0.1

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Feb. '89*	Jan. '89**	Feb. '88**	Feb. '89*	Jan. '89**	Feb. '88**	Feb. '89*	Jan. '89**	Feb. '88**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$537.63	$559.80	$550.31	42.3	43.7	43.4	$12.71	$12.81	$12.68
Petro-Chemicals	691.30	717.88	723.54	44.6	45.9	46.5	15.50	15.64	15.56

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 13,000 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment for the Baton Rouge MSA was estimated at 221,400 for February, an increase of 3,000 from the January revised estimate and an increase of 5,300 from the year-ago total. The increase in employment for the current month was centered in nonmanufacturing, due to a seasonal increase in government.

Manufacturing employment, estimated at 19,300, showed an increase of 100 over the month and 200 from the previous year. Durable goods was the sole contributor to the current increases, due to more business in the fabricated metal industry. Nondurable goods employment held steady for the current period, but showed a small gain from a year ago.

Nonmanufacturing employment, estimated at 202,100, showed an increase of 2,900 currently and an increase of 5,100 from the prior year. Less demand in the need for general contractors, other than building, caused construction employment to drop slightly. Retail trade employment was up mainly due to more business in department stores and apparel and accessory stores. Services exhibited a small decrease in the need for personal services for the current period. State government employment for the current month was up, largely as a result of the hiring of students for the beginning of the spring semester at local colleges and universities. All other sectors in nonmanufacturing remained unchanged for the current period.

Average weekly earnings of the Baton Rouge MSA's 13,000 production workers in all manufacturing was $537.63, a decrease of $22.17 from the January revised average. Average weekly hours dropped 1.4 hours for the current period for an average of 42.3 hours worked. Average hourly earnings, at $12.71, was down $0.10 per hour. A shorter scheduled work week contributed to these changes.

The total civilian labor force for the Baton Rouge area is estimated at 264,300, comprised of 239,200 employed, and 25,100 unemployed. The local unemployment rate presently is 9.5 percent.

The Baton Rouge Job Services Office served 1,852 individuals with new or renewal applications and placed 242 applicants in jobs during February.

Nonagricultural employment is expected to remain the same, with the possibility of more business in construction and retail trade. Unemployment should decline slightly as employment picks up.

HOUMA - THIBODAUX AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Feb. 1989*	Jan. 1989**	Feb. 1988**	Net Change From Jan. 1989	Net Change From Feb. 1988
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	53.4	53.2	52.9	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
MANUFACTURING	4.3	4.3	4.2	0	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	2.9	2.9	2.8	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	1.4	1.4	1.4	0	0
MINING	5.8	5.7	5.8	+ 0.1	0
CONSTRUCTION	1.8	1.8	1.7	0	+ 0.1
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	6.1	6.1	6.0	0	+ 0.1
Water Transportation	3.8	3.8	3.7	0	+ 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	13.4	13.4	13.4	0	0
Wholesale Trade	2.9	2.9	2.7	0	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	10.5	10.5	10.7	0	- 0.2
Eating & Drinking Places	3.2	3.2	3.3	0	- 0.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.2	2.2	2.3	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	9.4	9.3	8.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
GOVERNMENT	10.4	10.4	10.6	0	- 0.2
Federal	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
State and Local	9.9	9.9	10.2	0	- 0.3
State	2.8	2.8	2.9	0	- 0.1
Local	7.1	7.1	7.3	0	- 0.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Houma-Thibodaux MSA in February pushed up to 53,400, a level 200 above January. The minor changes were mostly seasonal in nature. Since February 1988, total employment displayed a gain of 500.

Manufacturing employment totaled 4,300, at the same level as the previous month. The durable goods segment remained unchanged. The nondurable goods segment was at the same level as the previous month.

Mining added workers, largely in oil and gas field services. Construction remained on the same level. In transportation, scattered small gains were offset by small losses in other segments. Both wholesale trade and retail trade showed no significant overall change. Finance, insurance, and real estate held steady. Services were boosted by an increase in private health services. Government exhibited no change of any importance.

Estimated unemployment was 8,100 in February. Unemployment presently comprises 11.8 percent of the civilian labor force for the Houma-Thibodaux area. Recipients of regular unemployment benefits totaled 1,231.

Nonagricultural employment in the coming months is expected to exhibit a normal seasonal increase. Mining and construction will probably gain as weather becomes more favorable for outside activity. Water transportation will likely show some increases. Unemployment is expected to decrease as employment increases.

LAFAYETTE AREA -
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Feb. 1989*	Jan. 1989**	Feb. 1988**	Net Change From Jan. 1989	Net Change From Feb. 1988
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	84.7	84.4	83.5	+ 0.3	+ 1.2
MANUFACTURING	6.9	7.0	6.9	- 0.1	0
Durable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
Nondurable Goods	5.2	5.3	5.2	- 0.1	0
Food & Kindred Products	1.6	1.7	1.6	- 0.1	0
MINING	11.3	11.3	11.2	0	+ 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	3.4	3.3	3.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	6.1	6.1	5.7	0	+ 0.4
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	23.1	23.1	22.6	0	+ 0.5
Wholesale Trade	5.3	5.2	5.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	3.1	3.1	3.0	0	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	2.2	2.1	2.2	+ 0.1	0
Retail Trade	17.8	17.9	17.4	- 0.1	+ 0.4
General Merchandise	3.0	3.0	2.9	0	+ 0.1
Food Stores	2.6	2.7	2.8	- 0.1	- 0.2
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.7	1.7	1.6	0	+ 0.1
Other Retail Trade	10.5	10.5	10.1	0	+ 0.4
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	3.5	3.5	3.7	0	- 0.2
Banking	1.0	1.0	1.1	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	17.9	17.9	17.7	0	+ 0.2
GOVERNMENT	12.5	12.2	12.7	+ 0.3	- 0.2
Federal	0.8	0.8	0.9	0	- 0.1
State and Local	11.7	11.4	11.8	+ 0.3	- 0.1
State	4.7	4.4	4.8	+ 0.3	- 0.1
Local	7.0	7.0	7.0	0	0

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Lafayette MSA was estimated at 84,700, an increase of 300 workers from the January 1989 revised figure.

Manufacturing decreased by 100 workers due to a seasonal drop in the food and kindred products sector. Construction was up by 100 from the prior month and compared to a year ago has increased by 400 workers. Government rose by 300 for February due to students being hired for the spring semester. All other segments showed little or no change from the previous month.

For the next 30 days, employment as well as the unemployment rate is expected to remain close to the current level.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Feb. 1989*	Jan. 1989**	Feb. 1988**	Net Change From Jan. 1989	Net Change From Feb. 1988
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	58.8	59.2	58.0	- 0.4	+ 0.8
MANUFACTURING	10.8	11.0	11.1	- 0.2	- 0.3
Durable Goods	2.5	2.6	2.7	- 0.1	- 0.2
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.4	2.5	2.6	- 0.1	- 0.2
Nondurable Goods	8.3	8.4	8.4	- 0.1	- 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Chemical & Pet. Products	7.6	7.7	7.7	- 0.1	- 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
MINING	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	4.3	4.2	3.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	4.1	4.1	4.1	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	13.8	13.7	13.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Wholesale Trade	2.5	2.4	2.5	+ 0.1	0
Retail Trade	11.3	11.3	10.8	0	+ 0.5
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.6	2.5	2.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.1	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.5	3.5	3.6	0	- 0.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.7	2.7	2.8	0	- 0.1
Banking	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
SERVICES	11.8	12.2	11.6	- 0.4	+ 0.2
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Personal Services	0.5	0.6	0.6	- 0.1	- 0.1
GOVERNMENT	10.4	10.4	10.6	0	- 0.2
Federal	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
State and Local	9.8	9.8	10.0	0	- 0.2
State	3.0	3.0	3.3	0	- 0.3
Local	6.8	6.8	6.7	0	+ 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Lake Charles MSA for February 1989 stood at 58,800, a decrease of 400 from the January 1989 revised estimate. Compared to a year ago, the work force has increased by 800 workers, the majority of the growth coming in the construction and trade sectors of the economy.

Manufacturing was down by 200 from January's revised estimate. The drop occurred in the other durable goods sector and chemical and petroleum products sector. Services fell by 400 workers from the prior month; the drop was spread across the services sector. Construction was up by 100 workers from January's figure. Trade increased by 100 workers from the prior month. All other sectors showed no change from the previous month.

The unemployment rate will probably remain close to the present level for the next thirty days.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Feb. 1989*	Jan. 1989**	Feb. 1988**	Net Change From Jan. 1989	Net Change From Feb. 1988
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	53.7	53.6	54.8	+ 0.1	- 1.1
MANUFACTURING	7.4	7.5	7.4	- 0.1	0
Durable Goods	2.1	2.2	2.2	- 0.1	- 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.9	2.0	2.0	- 0.1	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	5.3	5.3	5.2	0	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.7	0.7	0.8	0	- 0.1
Chemical & Allied Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	4.1	4.1	3.9	0	+ 0.2
MINING	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	2.0	2.1	2.3	- 0.1	- 0.3
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.7	3.0	2.9	- 0.3	- 0.2
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	13.4	13.7	14.1	- 0.3	- 0.7
Wholesale Trade	3.4	3.5	3.8	- 0.1	- 0.4
Retail Trade	10.0	10.2	10.3	- 0.2	- 0.3
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.3	2.4	2.5	- 0.1	- 0.2
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	3.2	3.3	3.4	- 0.1	- 0.2
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	4.4	4.2	4.4	+ 0.2	0
Banking	0.9	0.9	1.0	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	12.0	12.0	11.6	0	+ 0.4
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.6	0.5	0.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.5	0	+ 0.1
Health Services	5.4	5.4	5.2	0	+ 0.2
GOVERNMENT	11.4	10.7	11.7	+ 0.7	- 0.3
Federal	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
State and Local	10.8	10.1	11.1	+ 0.7	- 0.3
State	4.6	3.9	4.7	+ 0.7	- 0.1
Local	6.2	6.2	6.4	0	- 0.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment, estimated at 53,700, was 100 above the 53,600 estimate for January, 1989.

Manufacturing experienced a minimal loss of 100, as it dropped to an estimated 7,400 workers. The loss was in durable goods.

Construction continued to be depressed as it declined another 100 workers. Transportation and public utilities declined by 300 to an estimated 2,000. Wholesale and retail trade followed its normal pattern dropping another 300 workers. Finance, insurance and real estate gained 200 workers, rising to 4,400 workers. The largest gain, 700, was in government and reflects the opening of the spring semester at educational facilities. There was no movement in mining or services.

Employment should begin to inch upward as weather conditions improve. Unemployment continues to run high.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Feb. 1989*	Jan. 1989**	Feb. 1988**	Net Change From Jan. 1989	Net Change From Feb. 1988
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	516.7	515.9	510.9	+ 0.8	+ 5.8
MANUFACTURING	42.7	42.8	43.1	- 0.1	- 0.4
Durable Goods	22.2	22.3	22.1	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
Fabricated Metal Products	2.1	2.1	2.2	0	- 0.1
Machinery	2.7	2.7	2.7	0	0
Transportation Equipment	13.6	13.7	13.4	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Ship & Boatbuilding & Repairing	10.0	10.1	9.7	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Other Durable Goods	2.0	2.0	2.0	0	0
Nondurable Goods	20.5	20.5	21.0	0	- 0.5
Food & Kindred Products	5.9	5.9	5.9	0	0
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.6	1.6	1.8	0	- 0.2
Paper & Allied Products	0.7	0.7	0.8	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	3.6	3.6	3.7	0	- 0.1
Chemicals and Allied Products	4.8	4.8	4.8	0	0
Petroleum & Coal Products	3.5	3.5	3.6	0	- 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
MINING	15.2	15.3	15.2	- 0.1	0
Oil & Gas Extraction	14.3	14.4	14.3	- 0.1	0
CONSTRUCTION	21.8	22.0	21.3	- 0.2	+ 0.5
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	44.3	44.1	43.6	+ 0.2	+ 0.7
Railroad Transportation	1.4	1.4	1.4	0	0
Water Transportation	13.2	13.1	13.2	+ 0.1	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	134.1	133.7	131.4	+ 0.4	+ 2.7
Wholesale Trade	32.0	31.8	31.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.6
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	18.3	18.2	18.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	13.7	13.6	13.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Retail Trade	102.1	101.9	100.0	+ 0.2	+ 2.1
General Merchandise	13.9	13.9	13.5	0	+ 0.4
Food Stores	20.3	20.1	20.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Eating & Drinking Places	34.3	34.0	33.2	+ 0.3	+ 1.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	33.7	33.9	33.8	- 0.2	- 0.1
Banking	7.2	7.2	7.1	0	+ 0.1
SERVICES	138.5	137.7	135.8	+ 0.8	+ 2.7
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	13.1	13.0	13.1	+ 0.1	0
Health Services	37.3	37.2	36.0	+ 0.1	+ 1.3
GOVERNMENT	86.4	86.4	86.7	0	- 0.3
Federal	16.1	16.0	15.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
State and Local	70.3	70.4	70.9	- 0.1	- 0.6
State	18.4	18.5	19.0	- 0.1	- 0.6
Local	51.9	51.9	51.9	0	0

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Feb. '89*	Jan. '89**	Feb. '88**	Feb. '89*	Jan. '89**	Feb. '88**	Feb. '89*	Jan. '89**	Feb. '88**
All MANUFACTURING	$437.66	$428.67	$425.82	40.3	40.1	40.4	$10.86	$10.69	$10.54
Durable Goods	384.56	375.88	378.50	40.1	39.4	39.8	9.59	9.54	9.51
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	287.68	283.03	273.11	31.1	31.0	31.0	9.25	9.13	8.81
Fabricated Metal Products	365.36	383.36	426.01	35.3	39.4	41.2	10.35	9.73	10.34
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	372.04	361.49	352.54	41.2	39.9	39.7	9.03	9.06	8.88
Nondurable Goods	494.91	487.53	474.03	40.5	40.9	40.9	12.22	11.92	11.59
Food & Kindred Products	309.16	314.94	326.88	35.7	36.2	37.4	8.66	8.70	8.74
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	195.48	200.00	179.12	36.2	36.9	32.1	5.40	5.42	5.58
Paper & Allied Products	405.48	390.74	400.79	43.6	45.7	45.7	9.30	8.55	8.77
Printing & Publishing	374.23	413.71	360.19	38.7	40.8	38.4	9.67	10.14	9.38
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	783.55	724.46	755.25	44.8	44.5	47.5	17.49	16.28	15.90

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 29,400 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the New Orleans MSA in February increased to 516,700, a level 800 above January. Decreases in some industry divisions were offset by larger increases in others. Over the year, nonagricultural employment gained 5,800 workers, with increases in construction, transportation and public utilities, wholesale and retail trade, and services.

Manufacturing employment totaled 42,700, down 100 from the previous month. Ship and boat building and repairing experienced a loss of employment due to the completion of contracts and orders.

Mining lost workers mostly in the oil and gas extraction segment. Construction showed a small seasonal decrease. An increase in transportation and public utilities was primarily due to a rise in local port activity. Wholesale and retail trade exhibited moderate overall gains. Finance, insurance and real estate edged downward. Advancements in services were largely attributed to growth in the business services segment. Government registered no change from the previous month.

Production workers in the area earned an average of $437.66 per week in February, up $8.99 from last month's average. Average weekly hours were 40.3, up 0.2 of an hour from previous month. Average hourly earnings were $10.86, up $0.17 over the previous month. Compared to one year ago, weekly earnings are up $11.84 in manufacturing.

Estimated unemployment for February is 56,600. The unemployment rate is 9.7 percent. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits totaled 8,311.

Nonagricultural employment in the coming months is expected to show a slight overall increase. Gains will probably be attributed to normal seasonal gains in construction, mining and transportation and public utilities. Unemployment is expected to show a small decrease as employment picks up.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Feb. 1989*	Jan. 1989**	Feb. 1988**	Net Change From Jan. 1989	Net Change From Feb. 1988
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	128.0	128.4	128.8	- 0.4	- 0.8
MANUFACTURING	17.2	17.3	17.8	- 0.1	- 0.6
Durable Goods	12.4	12.4	12.8	0	- 0.4
Lumber and Wood Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Metals and Machinery	7.1	7.1	7.5	0	- 0.4
Primary and Fabricated Metals	1.9	1.9	1.6	0	+ 0.3
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	5.2	5.2	5.9	0	- 0.7
Other Durable Goods	4.9	4.9	4.9	0	0
Nondurable Good	4.8	4.9	5.0	- 0.1	- 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	0.7	0.7	0.8	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	2.1	2.2	2.2	- 0.1	- 0.1
MINING	3.0	3.0	3.2	0	- 0.2
CONSTRUCTION	6.0	6.1	5.7	- 0.1	+ 0.3
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	8.3	8.3	8.0	0	+ 0.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	31.4	31.6	31.2	- 0.2	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade	7.3	7.3	7.5	0	- 0.2
Retail Trade	24.1	24.3	23.7	- 0.2	+ 0.4
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	6.4	6.4	6.8	0	- 0.4
SERVICES	30.2	30.4	30.4	- 0.2	- 0.2
GOVERNMENT	25.5	25.3	25.7	+ 0.2	- 0.2
Federal	4.9	4.9	4.9	0	0
State and Local	20.6	20.4	20.8	+ 0.2	- 0.2
State	6.3	6.3	6.5	0	- 0.2
Local	14.3	14.1	14.3	+ 0.2	0

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Feb. '89*	Jan. '89**	Feb. '88**	Feb. '89*	Jan. '89**	Feb. '88**	Feb. '89*	Jan. '89**	Feb. '88**
All MANUFACTURING	$475.21	$476.74	$455.36	39.8	41.6	39.7	$11.94	$11.46	$11.47
Lumber and Wood Products	270.76	288.49	214.86	33.1	33.9	29.8	8.18	8.51	7.21
Metals and Machinery	414.80	444.24	460.93	42.5	45.1	42.6	9.76	9.85	10.82
Food and Kindred Products	390.78	321.02	293.18	46.8	41.8	37.3	8.35	7.68	7.86
Printing and Publishing	284.80	275.32	334.78	29.3	29.7	34.8	9.72	9.27	9.62
Petroleum and Coal Products	770.08	600.26	534.11	51.1	45.2	42.9	15.07	13.28	12.45

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,600 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The nonagricultural employment total for February in the Shreveport MSA declined to 128,000, down from the revised January estimate of 128,400, and 800 less than the year ago estimate. There was an over-the-month loss in both manufacturing and non-manufacturing employment.

The manufacturing employment estimate of 17,200 declined slightly from the revised January estimate of 17,300. Durable goods manufacturing employment held steady while nondurable goods employment decreased from 4,900 to 4,800, caused by job losses in garment manufacturing and in other nondurable goods production.

The employment estimate for total nonmanufacturing in February dropped to 110,800, down from 111,100 in January and 111,000 one year ago. Job losses in construction, trade and services were more than could be replaced with an employment increase in the government sector, the only over-the-month employment gain.

The average weekly hours of an estimated 12,600 production workers in manufacturing in this MSA dropped slightly to $475.21, down $1.53 from last month. The average weekly hours dropped from 41.6 in January to 39.8, while the average hourly earnings increased to $11.94, up from $11.46 in January.

The civilian labor force of 157,600 included 139,200 employed and 18,400 unemployed, giving an unemployment rate of 11.7 percent for the Shreveport MSA.

An anticipated payroll reduction will affect over three hundred production workers with a manufacturing firm within the next sixty days. Total employment will show a small gain during the second quarter when the 1989 racing season begins. Total unemployment is expected to remain high, but decline from the present level.

INSURED UNEMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION GROUP FOR THE WEEK INCLUDING THE 19th OF FEBRUARY, 1989

Industry	LOUISIANA			ALEXANDRIA AREA			BATON ROUGE AREA		
	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE
Mining (10-14)	2,890	2,413	477	70	59	11	30	25	5
Contract Construction (15-17)	12,841	8,782	4,059	435	340	95	1,904	1,396	508
Manufacturing (20-29)	5,462	2,686	2,776	107	69	38	233	130	103
Trans., Comm., & Utilities (40-49)	1,981	1,154	827	56	36	20	169	81	88
Wholesale Trade (50-51)	1,348	900	448	50	40	10	160	102	58
Retail Trade (52-59)	5,770	3,333	2,437	205	132	73	569	288	281
Fin., Ins., & Real Estate (60-67)	1,389	1,079	310	32	31	1	185	145	40
Services & Misc. (70-89 and 01-09)	9,593	4,887	4,706	288	173	115	931	485	446
Public Administration (91-97)	1,377	658	719	62	36	26	155	58	97
All Others	122	68	54	0	0	0	23	7	16
Totals	42,773	25,960	16,813	1,305	916	389	4,359	2,717	1,642
Occupations									
Professional, Tech., & Managerial	4,471	3,598	873	112	98	14	470	370	100
Clerical and Sales	7,861	5,585	2,276	268	212	56	853	569	284
Services Occupations	4,286	1,412	2,874	190	74	116	386	96	290
Agri., Fishing, Forestry & Related Occ.	1,411	384	1,027	32	16	16	55	17	38
Processing Occupations	1,348	692	656	10	7	3	60	31	29
Machine Trades	2,024	1,360	664	66	55	11	208	156	52
Benchwork Occupations	1,183	564	619	30	16	14	62	37	25
Structural Work Occupations	12,883	8,426	4,457	445	343	102	1,847	1,231	616
Miscellaneous Occupations	7,306	3,939	3,367	152	95	57	418	210	208
Totals	42,773	25,960	16,813	1,305	916	389	4,359	2,717	1,642

INSURED UNEMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION GROUP FOR THE WEEK INCLUDING THE 19th OF FEBRUARY, 1969

Industry	HOUMA-THIBODAUX AREA			LAFAYETTE AREA			LAKE CHARLES AREA		
	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE
Mining (10-14)	208	170	38	462	382	80	54	50	4
Contract Construction (15-17)	274	233	41	360	233	127	474	366	108
Manufacturing (20-29)	443	321	122	177	83	94	123	58	65
Trans., Comm., & Utilities (40-49)	119	95	24	74	54	20	76	51	25
Wholesale Trade (50-51)	90	77	13	63	43	20	33	23	10
Retail Trade (52-59)	200	143	57	288	166	122	279	200	79
Fin., Ins., & Real Estate (60-67)	17	17	0	97	81	16	48	43	5
Services & Misc. (70-89 and 01-09)	205	145	60	384	234	150	284	187	97
Public Administration (91-97)	47	29	18	40	27	13	41	27	14
All Others	1	1	0	5	3	2	1	0	1
Totals	1,604	1,231	373	1,950	1,306	644	1,413	1,005	408
Occupations									
Professional, Tech., & Managerial	163	149	14	296	265	31	156	138	18
Clerical and Sales	189	158	31	444	352	92	316	260	56
Services Occupations	127	83	44	231	89	142	136	56	80
Agri., Fishing, Forestry & Related Occ.	27	8	19	38	17	21	55	9	46
Processing Occupations	289	213	76	94	41	53	40	22	18
Machine Trades	80	68	12	68	42	26	56	44	12
Benchwork Occupations	27	16	11	39	22	17	26	22	4
Structural Work Occupations	390	315	75	396	260	136	429	328	101
Miscellaneous Occupations	312	221	91	344	218	126	199	126	73
Totals	1,604	1,231	373	1,950	1,306	644	1,413	1,005	408

INSURED UNEMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION GROUP FOR THE WEEK INCLUDING THE 19th OF FEBRUARY, 1989

Industry	MONROE AREA			NEW ORLEANS AREA			SHREVEPORT AREA		
	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE
Mining (10-14)	33	30	3	171	126	45	150	130	20
Contract Construction (15-17)	531	421	110	2,295	1,404	891	852	518	334
Manufacturing (20-29)	127	63	64	1,032	497	535	407	173	234
Trans., Comm., & Utilities (40-49)	37	24	13	794	394	400	150	83	67
Wholesale Trade (50-51)	20	14	6	477	300	177	159	105	54
Retail Trade (52-59)	280	156	124	1,868	948	920	553	292	261
Fin., Ins., & Real Estate (60-67)	25	20	5	577	407	170	185	138	47
Services & Misc. (70-89 and 01-09)	312	183	129	2,868	1,403	1,465	896	432	464
Public Administration (91-97)	50	18	32	340	120	220	134	57	77
All Others	2	2	0	47	34	13	1	1	0
Totals	1,417	931	486	10,469	5,633	4,836	3,487	1,929	1,558
Occupations									
Professional, Tech., & Managerial	148	129	19	1,768	1,322	446	375	309	66
Clerical and Sales	304	216	88	2,713	1,679	1,034	778	580	198
Services Occupations	171	33	138	1,303	309	994	508	103	405
Agri., Fishing, Forestry & Related Occ.	19	9	10	72	25	47	71	28	43
Processing Occupations	9	3	6	220	75	145	52	14	38
Machine Trades	88	62	26	448	290	158	187	99	88
Benchwork Occupations	30	20	10	211	66	145	112	48	64
Structural Work Occupations	395	317	78	2,310	1,308	1,002	824	510	314
Miscellaneous Occupations	253	142	111	1,424	559	865	580	238	342
Totals	1,417	931	486	10,469	5,633	4,836	3,487	1,929	1,558

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